

Message Text

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70/70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AGR-20 SP-03 AID-20 NSC-07

RSC-01 CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 H-03 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /165 W
----- 044601

O R 231939Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7885

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 3579

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - T E X T

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, HO

SUBJECT: BANANAS

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 3572

1. REFTEL REPORTED GOH DECISION TO REDUCE CURRENT TAX RATE
ON BANANA EXPORTS FROM 50 CENTS PER BOX TO 25 CENTS PER BOX.
REDUCTION OBTAINED BY AGREEMENT OF GOH IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH
UNITED BRANDS. IT IS BELIEVED THAT SAME CONDITIONS WILL BE
ACCEPTABLE TO STANDARD FRUIT. REPORTEDLY, MINECON BENNATON
FULLY ADVISED GOVERNMENT OF COSTA RICA AND GOVERNMENT OF
PANAMA OF PROGRESS IN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED
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FRUIT.

2. FIVE CENT (U.S.) INCREASES TO 25 CENTS (U.S.) BASE DUE EACH JANUARY 1 FOR NEXT 5 YEARS.

3. MINECON BENNATON STATED IN RADIO ADDRESS THAT UNION OF BANANA EXPORTING COUNTRIES (UPEB) NEEDS TO BE REVISED SO AS TO PROTECT THE INCOME OBTAINED BY THE GOH AND TO REESTABLISH THE COMPETITIVE POSITION OF HONDURAN BANANA EXPORTS WHICH HAVE BEEN LOSING MARKETS. BENNATON STATED THAT HIGH REPRESENTATIVES OF STANDARD FRUIT AND UNITED FRUIT HAVE STATED AGREEMENT THAT THE SURCHARGE IS WORKABLE AS LONG AS ALL THE EXPORTING COUNTRIES APPLY SUCH TAX AND AS LONG AS THE TAX IS NOT ONEROUS. BENNATON CITED CONTINUING EFFORT OF GOVERNMENT NOT TO BE ANTI-AMERICAN OR ANTI-MULTINATIONAL COMPANY. HE STATED HIS BELIEF THAT HONDURAS IS ENTERING A NEW ERA OF RELATIONS WITH MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES AND THAT HONDURAS NEEDS VIABLE FOREIGN INVESTMENT. SANCHEZ

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Message Attributes

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